

ORIGINAL



Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
Creating Opportunities for Business Success

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

FCC MAIL ROOM

APR 26 2001

RECEIVED

April 23, 2001

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW, Suite TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

Ex Parte Letter Re: File Nos. NSD-L-01-36 (Michigan)
CC Docket Nos. 96-98 and 99-200)

Enclosed are five (5) copies of an ex parte presentation in the above-referenced proceeding.

Very truly yours,

Rusty Merchant
Vice President, Public Policy and Government Affairs

#553834 v1

No. of Copies rec'd 0+4
List A B C D E

ORIGINAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Muhammad Ali

FCC MAIL ROOM

APR 26 2001

RECEIVED

April 18, 2001

Chairman Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: File Nos. NSD-L-01-36 (Michigan)
CC Docket Nos. 96-98 and 99-200

Dear Chairman Powell:

As a business person and a citizen, I am writing to you to express my concern over the alarming rate at which Michigan area codes are exhausting available numbers and to support the Michigan Public Service Commission's Petition in this docket for authority to implement number conservation measures. In Michigan, since 1994 four area codes have been added with at least three more in need of relief. One of the codes (616) encompasses the area that I live in and do business. The Michigan Public Service Commission is currently considering an all services overlay for our 616 area as a means of relief.

As you are aware, the addition of new area codes (whether through a geographic split or an overlay) is costly to businesses and their employees. The added confusion makes the overlay the least attractive option for area code relief. It is important to note that any area code solution will cost businesses needed capital to expand and create jobs.

A report to the Ad Hoc Telecommunications Users Committee stated that the available area codes, under a 10 number dialing plan, could be completely exhausted by 2007. If additional numbers are added to the dialing plan to create more available numbers, the cost to businesses nationally could reach \$150 billion. It is imperative that the FCC take action to reduce the rate of area code exhaustion and the necessity for 11 or 12 number dialing plans.

The same study also shows that the proper implementation of number conservation mechanisms could extend the life of the current 10 number dialing plans to at least the year 2048 and possibly as far into the future as 2097. In our current world, where knowledge doubles in 18 to 24 months, an additional 47 years may find the use of numbers for telecommunications obsolete.

The Michigan Public Service Commission has filed a Petition in this docket asking that you grant it delegated authority for the Grand Rapids and Detroit Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) so as to extend the life of existing and newly created area codes through 1,000 block number distribution and participation in the initial round of proposed national number pooling.

Under your criteria for such delegated authority you specify that the numbering plan area must be in jeopardy, have a remaining lifespan of at least one year and that the numbering plan area is in one of the largest MSA's. The Grand Rapids MSA currently meets your criterion for eligibility.

Therefore, the Federal Communications Commission should grant the Michigan Public Services Commission's Petition so that it may implement number conservation techniques that will save mine and other businesses millions of dollars in unnecessary costs.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Muhammad Ali".

Muhammad Ali

MA/ds

cc:

Mr. Rusty Merchant
Vice President
Public Policy & Government
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
111 Pearl Street NW
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831

Zeeland Charter Township

6582 Byron Road
Zeeland, Michigan 49464

Phone (616) 772-6701
FAX (616) 772-1857

April 17, 2001

Chairman Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: File Nos. NSD-L-01-36 (Michigan)
CC Docket Nos. 96-98 and 99-200

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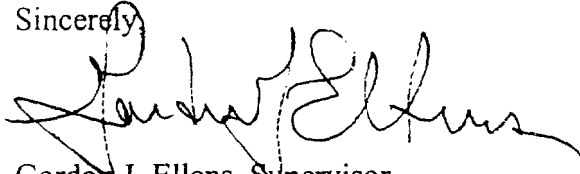
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Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If I can be of additional assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gordon J. Ellens', written over a horizontal line.

Gordon J. Ellens, Supervisor
Zeeland Charter Township

cc: Mr. Rusty Merchant
Vice President
Public Policy & Government
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
111 Pearl Street NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2831



April 19, 2001

Chairman Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: File Nos. NSD-L-01-36 (Michigan)
CC Docket Nos. 96-98 and 99-200

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49503-2679

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Chairman Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
April 19, 2001
Page 2

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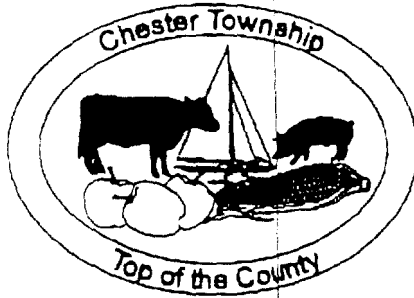
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Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If I can be of additional assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Sabbe
Director of Firm Administration

Cc: Mr. Rusty Merchant
Vice President
Public Policy & Government
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
111 Pearl Street NW
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831



Chester Township

Ottawa County Michigan

April 18, 2001

Chairman Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: File Nos. NSD-L-01-36 (Michigan)
CC Docket Nos. 96-98 and 99-200

Dear Chairman Powell:

As a township supervisor and a citizen, I am writing to you to express my concern over the alarming rate at which Michigan area codes are exhausting available numbers and to support the Michigan Public Service Commission's Petition in this docket for authority to implement number conservation measures. In Michigan, since 1994 four area codes have been added with at least three more in need of relief. One of the codes (616) encompasses the area that I live in and do business. The Michigan Public Service Commission is currently considering an all services overlay for our 616 area as a means of relief.

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Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If I can be of additional assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



Jo Kelly
Supervisor

cc:
Mr. Rusty Merchant
Vice President
Public Policy & Government
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
111 Pearl Street NW
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831



Cascade Engineering

April 12, 2001

Chairman Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: File Nos. NSD-L-01-36 (Michigan)
CC Docket Nos. 96-98 and 99-200

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Cascade Engineering

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Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If I can be of additional assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fred P. Keller".

Fred P. Keller
Chairman / CEO

cc: Mr. Rusty Merchant
Vice President
Public Policy & Government
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
111 Pearl Street NW
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831

Vander Broek ROOFING, INC.

ROOFING AND SHEET METAL CONTRACTORS

1550 Taylor, N. E. • P. O. Box 2332

Grand Rapids, Michigan 49501

Phone: (616) 363-3885

Fax: (616) 363-5470

April 11, 2001

Chairman Michael Powell
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445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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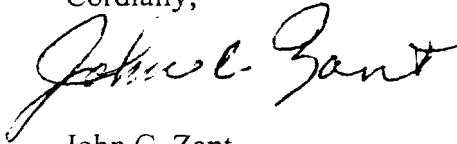
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Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Zant". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a stylized "Z".

John C. Zant
President

JCZ/jt

cc:

✓ Mr. Rusty Merchant

Vice President

Public Policy & Government

Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce

111 Pearl Street NW

Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831



Owen-Ames-Kimball Co. 300 Ionia, NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503-2507 Voice 616-456-1521 • Fax 616-458-0770

April 11, 2001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas M. Healy', written in a cursive style.

Thomas M. Healy, P.E.
President

cc:

Mr. Rusty Merchant
Vice President
Public Policy & Government
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
111 Pearl Street NW
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831



ISO 9002 Certified

2240 LANDMEIER ROAD
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PH: 616-538-3759
FAX: 616-538-3793

11873 BELDEN COURT
LIVONIA, MI 48150
PH: 734-513-7400
FAX: 734-513-7910

April 18, 2001

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
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Sincerely,



Allan Wilde
President

cc:

Mr. Rusty Merchant
Vice President
Public Policy & Government
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
111 Pearl Street NW
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831

Distinctive Machine Corporation

3520 3 Mile Road NW, Ste A

Grand Rapids, MI. 49544

Telephone (616) 791-6767

email: distinct@wmrfs.net

FAX (616) 791-4822

Tuesday, April 17, 2001

Chairman Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,



Gary Berkenpas
Vice President Distinctive Machine Corporation

cc:

Mr. Rusty Merchant
Vice President Public Policy & Government
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
111 Pearl Street NW
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831



CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS
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GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49501-2450

April 18, 2001

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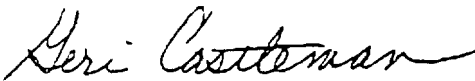
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Sincerely,



Geri Castleman
Assistant VP - Telecommunications

cc:

Mr. Rusty Merchant
Vice President
Public Policy & Government
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
111 Pearl Street NW
Grand Rapids MI 49503-2831

WARNER NORCROSS & JUDD LLP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

900 OLD KENT BUILDING

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April 18, 2001

Chairman Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: File Nos. NSD-L-01-36 (Michigan)
CC Docket Nos. 96-98 and 99-200

Dear Chairman Powell:

As an executive and a citizen, I am writing to you to express my concern over the alarming rate at which Michigan area codes are exhausting available numbers and to support the Michigan Public Service Commission's Petition in this docket for authority to implement number conservation measures. In Michigan, since 1994 four area codes have been added with at least three more in need of relief. One of the codes (616) encompasses the area that I live in and do business. The Michigan Public Service Commission is currently considering an all services overlay for our 616 area as a means of relief.

As you are aware, the addition of new area codes (whether through a geographic split or an overlay) is costly to businesses and their employees. The added confusion makes the overlay the least attractive option for area code relief. It is important to note that any area code solution will cost businesses needed capital to expand and create jobs.

A report to the Ad Hoc Telecommunications Users Committee stated that the available area codes, under a 10 number dialing plan, could be completely exhausted by 2007. If additional numbers are added to the dialing plan to create more available numbers, the cost to businesses nationally could reach \$150 billion. It is imperative that the FCC take action to reduce the rate of area code exhaustion and the necessity for 11 or 12 number dialing plans.

The same study also shows that the proper implementation of number conservation mechanisms could extend the life of the current 10 number dialing plans to at least the year 2048 and possibly as far into the future as 2097. In our current world, where knowledge doubles in 18 to 24 months, an additional 47 years may find the use of numbers for telecommunications obsolete.

The Michigan Public Service Commission has filed a Petition in this docket asking that you grant it delegated authority for the Grand Rapids and Detroit Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) so as to extend the life of existing and newly created area codes through

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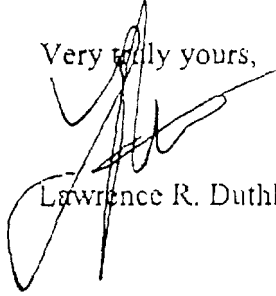
1,000 block number distribution and participation in the initial round of proposed national number pooling.

Under your criteria for such delegated authority you specify that the numbering plan area must be in jeopardy, have a remaining lifespan of at least one year and that the numbering plan area is in one of the largest MSA's. The Grand Rapids MSA currently meets your criterion for eligibility.

Therefore, the Federal Communications Commission should grant the Michigan Public Services Commission's Petition so that it may implement number conservation techniques that will save mine and other businesses millions of dollars in unnecessary costs.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If I can be of additional assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Very truly yours,



Lawrence R. Duthler

/rk

cc: Mr. Rusty Merchant
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